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OCI No. 1549/63

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Office of Current Intelligence  
15 May 1963

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Further Comments on Haitian "Government-in-Exile"

1. It is unlikely that a government headed by Louis Dejoie and Daniel Fignole could remain viable for a long period of time. The two leaders have been rivals for power since at least early 1957 and they represent the two classes which have been bitter rivals for power in Haiti ever since the nation's independence: Dejoie is a member of the small, formerly dominant mulatto elite, while Fignole, like Duvalier, is an ardent "black supremacist."

2. Both men are radically different in their personal political ideologies and the egotism and ambition of each would prevent them from establishing any stable government in Haiti in the event they were to assume power. Only their desire to oust Duvalier has brought them together. They have sometimes resorted to similar tactics in the anti-Duvalier campaign, both men having used Castro's broadcasting facilities in 1959 as a propaganda platform from which to denounce the Haitian Government.

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3. So far there is no evidence that any government will extend de facto recognition to the Dejoie-Fignole "government."

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4. Dejoie and Fignole could well encounter difficulties with former Duvalier supporter Clement Barbot and his group on the basis of this group's current position as the sole effective internal threat to Duvalier. Barbot is widely regarded as almost as reprehensible as Duvalier, but any new government that did not either include him or eliminate him might be attacked by him.

5. The Dejoie-Fignole coalition could also encounter opposition from the Haitian military establishment, which lately has been rendered virtually helpless by Duvalier but which might quickly regain its traditional role as the arbiter of Haitian politics in the event of Duvalier's elimination. None of the Haitian personalities who Dejoie and Fignole name as part of their "government-in-exile" organization are military leaders.

6. In sum, a Dejoie-Fignole coalition government, if it came to power probably would be popular or stable only in the short-run. After the initial satisfaction of the Haitian people with the overthrow of Duvalier had worn off, their regime probably would encounter increasing opposition from within the regime and from the people themselves.

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